

HURRICANE SEASON

Are you ready?

2005

HURCON IV **Within 72 hours**
Monitor local TV and radio stations and the commander's access channel (Channel 7 on base). Gather hurricane supplies, important documents (see list at right) and locate nearest shelter. If evacuating, call the Air Force Personnel Center at **1-800-435-9941** before leaving the area. Drive away from the coast. Interstate highways may be congested.

HURCON III **Within 48 hours**
Continue monitoring local news. If remaining in the area, ensure vehicles are full of fuel.
Check on family and friends without transportation or those with deployed spouses.

HURCON II **Within 24 hours**
Monitor radio/TV for updates. Secure outdoor items such as lawn furniture, antennas and children's toys. Unless directed to evacuate, move to shelter. Cover all windows. If shutters have not been installed, use pre-cut plywood.

HURCON I **Within 12 hours**
Monitor radio/TV for updates. Bring pets inside. Check tie-downs on manufactured homes.
Stay inside away from windows, skylights and glass doors during the storm. Watch for tornadoes. Avoid flood waters.

Post Hurricane
Monitor radio/TV for updates and instructions. Avoid standing water and downed electric lines. Inspect your home for damage. In case of power outage, use flashlights, not candles. Turn electrical appliances off to reduce "surge" when power is restored.

Emergency numbers

20th Security Forces Squadron Desk.....	895-3669
20th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department.....	895-1108
20th CES Readiness Flight.....	895-0109
Ambulance.....	895-3117

Preparing for a Hurricane

- Here are a few tips from the 20th Civil Engineer Squadron on how to prepare for a hurricane:
- Have an evacuation plan.
 - If you don't evacuate, be sure to stay indoors.
 - Secure all outside items that may blow away.
 - Fill your vehicle with fuel.
 - Tape windows to prevent shattering.
 - Shut off utilities -- water, electricity and gas.
 - Listen to radio or TV for weather updates.
 - Assemble your "survival kit."

Your hurricane survival kit should include:
Food, water: Pack three days worth of bottled water per person per day, purifying tablets (three gallons per person), non-perishable food, a manual can opener, baby food and formula, vitamins, snacks, powdered or canned milk and pet food if needed (Note: most shelters do not allow pets).
Documents: Pack insurance documents, personal identification, social security cards, road maps, address book and phone numbers, reading material and activities for children.
Safety gear: Include rain gear/poncho, blanket, pillows, hat, sun visor, work gloves, flashlight, boots/shoes with rigid soles, portable radio, portable TV, batteries and 100 ft. of rope or heavy cord.
Health needs: Pack prescription/non-prescription medications, bandages, gauze pads, safety pins/scissors, tweezers, adhesive tape, antiseptic spray/soap, rubbing alcohol, latex gloves, diapers, eyeglasses, contacts, eyecare products, toilet paper, sunscreen and bug repellent.

HURRICANE WATCH

Hurricane conditions may pose a threat to the area within 36 hours. All emergency supplies should be checked.

HURRICANE WARNING

Hurricane conditions are expected in a specified area within 24 hours. When a hurricane warning is issued, all precautions should be taken immediately.

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

Hurricane levels are categorized using the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale. It is based on a hurricane's present intensity. It is used to give an estimate of potential property damage and flooding expected along the coast from a hurricane landfall. All winds use a U.S. one-minute average.
For more information on hurricanes, visit the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Web site at www.noaa.gov.

Category 1
Winds: 74 - 95 mph
Storm Surge: 4 - 5 feet above normal
Damage: primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery and trees; also coastal road flooding and minor pier damage

Category 2
Winds: 96 - 110 mph
Storm Surge: 6 - 8 feet above normal
Damage: roofing, doors, windows, considerable damage to shrubbery, trees, mobile homes, signs, piers, coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 3 - 5 hours before arrival of storm center

Category 3
Winds: 111 - 130 mph
Storm Surge: 9 - 12 feet above normal
Damage: structural damage to small residences and utility buildings with minor curtainwall failures, low-lying escape routes are cut by rising water 2 - 4 hours before arrival of storm center, evacuation of low-lying residences

Category 4
Winds: 131 - 155 mph
Storm Surge: 13 - 18 feet above normal
Damage: residence roof failures, total mobile home destruction, low-lying escape routes may be cut by rising water 2 - 4 hours before arrival of storm center

Category 5
Winds: 155+ mph
Storm Surge: 18+ feet above normal
Damage: complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings, some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away, all shrubs, trees and signs blown down and complete destruction of mobile homes, severe and extensive window and door damage; low-lying escape routes are cut by rising water 2 - 4 hours before arrival of storm center

SHELTERS

On Base
Fitness Center, Club Shaw, conference center, community center

Off Base
Sumter High School (M), Alice Drive Elementary (R), Alice Drive Middle School (R), Hillcrest Middle School (R), Maywood Middle School (R), Furman Middle School (R)

M - Mandatory shelter, opened when the governor declares mandatory coastal evacuation.
R - Reserve shelter, will open as needed at the discretion of Sumter County and the American Red Cross. *For more information, call 775-2363.*

Evacuation procedures and expenses

If it becomes necessary to evacuate, contact the Air Force Personnel Center at **1-800-435-9941** before leaving the local area, and again upon reaching a safe area. AFPC will provide information on returning to Shaw.

Local conditions and information will also be available at www.shaw.af.mil. The wing commander will give guidance on how far members may travel and can authorize government credit card use. This information will come through the squadrons and will be posted on the commander's access channel, cable Channel 7 on base.

Drive away from the coast. Interstate highways will be congested.

Travel allowances are not authorized unless the wing commander declares an emergency evacuation.

When a mandatory evacuation is implemented, federal employees must depart the area immediately.

Federal employees should ensure they have their government travel card for use in an evacuation order.

Those without government travel cards are authorized reimbursement, but must finance expenses accordingly.

If a member is deployed, spouses and family members are still authorized reimbursement. Plan to have a personal credit card or cash on hand for emergencies.

Federal employees and family members are authorized travel pay to a designated area or safehaven in conjunction with an evacuation. Basic evacuation entitlements include roundtrip mileage, per diem, lodging and incidental expenses.

Safehaven per diem is based on the approved Department of Defense maximum rates for lodging and meals.

For complete hurricane evacuation information, Air Force members are encouraged to reference Shaw Air Force Base Plan 108 at <http://intranet/20fwxp/xpp/Wing%20Plans.htm>.